

Please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A DNA molecule comprising:

(a) a region coding for a polypeptide which has human bile salt-stimulated lipase (BSSL) activity and has an amino acid sequence which is at least 90% homologous with the sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 3 or SEQ ID NO: 4;

(b) ~~a coding region, joined to the 5'-end of said polypeptide coding region,~~ a region coding for a signal peptide, next to the 5'-end of (a), wherein the signal peptide is capable of directing secretion of said the human BSSL polypeptide from *Pichia pastoris* cells transformed with said DNA molecule; and

(c) ~~, operably linked to the coding regions defined in (a) and (b),~~ the methanol oxidase promoter of *Pichia pastoris* operably linked to the regions of (a) and (b).

2. (previously presented) A DNA molecule according to claim 1 wherein the signal peptide has an amino acid sequence which is

identical to the amino acid sequence shown as amino acids -20 to -1 of SEQ ID NO: 2 in the Sequence Listing.

3. (previously presented) A DNA molecule according to claim 1 wherein the signal peptide comprises a *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* invertase signal peptide.

4. (currently amended) A DNA molecule according to any one of claims 1 to 3 encoding a polypeptide with human BSSL activity in which at least one of the repeat units of 11 amino acids comprised by said polypeptide is deleted, said repeat units being and wherein the repeat unit is indicated in SEQ ID NO: 1, ~~is deleted~~.

5. (previously presented) A DNA molecule according to any one of claims 1 to 3 coding for a polypeptide which has BSSL activity and has an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% homologous with the sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 3 or SEQ ID NO: 4.

6. (previously presented) A DNA molecule according to any one of claims 1 to 3 coding for a polypeptide which has the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 3 or SEQ ID NO: 4.

7. (previously presented) A vector comprising a DNA molecule according to any one of claims 1 to 3.

8. (previously presented) A replicable expression vector according to claim 7 which is capable of mediating expression in *Pichia pastoris* cells of a polypeptide with human BSSL activity.

9. (previously presented) A vector according to claim 8 which is the plasmid vector pARC 5771, pARC 5799 or pARC 5797.

10. (previously presented) Host cells of the genus *Pichia* transformed with a vector according to claim 7.

11. (original) Host cells according to claim 10 which are *Pichia pastoris* cells.

12. (original) Host cells according to claim 11 which are *Pichia pastoris* cells of the strain GS115.

14. (previously presented) A process for the production of a polypeptide which has human BSSL activity, which comprises culturing host cells according to claim 10 under conditions whereby said polypeptide is secreted into the culture medium, and recovering said polypeptide from the culture medium.

15. (previously presented) Host cells according to claim 11 which are PPF-1 transformed with pARC 5771, GS115 transformed with pARC 5799 or GS115 transformed with pARC 5797.